

Juvenile Justice Improvement Committee  
Judicial Conference of Indiana

**Minutes**

November 2, 2007

The Juvenile Justice Improvement Committee of the Judicial Conference of Indiana met at the Indiana Judicial Center on Friday, November 2, 2007 from 12:30 until 3:00 p.m.

1. Members present. Robert R. Aylsworth, Mary Beth Bonaventura, Vicki L. Carmichael, Richard A. Dailey, Deborah A. Domine, Thomas M. Hakes, James D. Humphrey, Marilyn A. Moores, Lynn Murray, Peter J. Nemeth, Brett J. Niemeier, Loretta H. Rush, Frank Sullivan, Jr., and Charles F. Pratt, Chair.
2. Staff present. Jeffrey Bercovitz, James Diller, and Anne Jordan provided the committee with staff assistance.
3. Minutes approved. The minutes for the meeting on October 5, 2007 were approved.
4. Report on Commission on State Tax
  - a. Judge Pratt reported on the work of the Commission on State Tax and Fiscal Policy. Jeffrey Bercovitz distributed minutes of the Commission's meetings on October 1 and October 15, 2007. Judge Murray, Judge Pratt and Judge Bonaventura reported on the meetings on October 17 and November 2 with James Payne, Director, Department of Child Services, Cathy Graham, IARCCA and others and their discussion of a Judge Pratt's proposal for state funding of juvenile services.
  - b. Judge Rush agreed to draft a position paper for review by the committee on the history of juvenile courts making placement decisions. She agreed to circulate it to the committee for comment.
  - c. Judge Pratt agreed to revise his state funding proposal for juvenile services based on comments he received and circulate it to the committee for review.
  - d. James Diller, Division of State Court Administration, distributed a handout with a listing of programs for juveniles. Committee members reviewed the information. Jeffrey Bercovitz and Jim Diller agreed to bring back a proposed form for collection of cost information for juveniles and circulate it in advance of the next meeting. It would be used to enhance the data now contained in the Juvenile Law Services Report.
5. ISBA Mental Health Pilot Project. Judge Harper gave a report on the ISBA Mental Health Pilot Project. She reported the project will screen all juveniles who come into the detention centers of the 6 pilot counties for mental health issues. The Advisory Board has discussed protocols for the collection and use of this information. The pilot counties have a site coordinator and are working with staff hired by grant funds to implement this project.
6. Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP A). Jeffrey Bercovitz distributed materials indicating that Indiana does not conduct interviews of repeat runaways and truants who are placed in secure detention if they violate their dispositional order not to run away or be truant again. Indiana law is silent on this interview, which is required under an amendment to the JJDP A in 2002. Committee members agreed Indiana should comply with federal law in this area

and the Juvenile Benchbook Committee should include form(s) and/or procedures to comply with this law.

7. Summit on Children. Judge Rush reminded members of the committee Indiana's Summit on Children will be held on December 14, 2007.

8. Next meeting dates. Committee members agreed to meet again on the following dates: January 4, 2008, February 1, 2008, March 7, 2008, May 2, 2008, June 6, 2008, October 3, 2008 and November 7, 2008, all from 12:00 noon – 3:00 p.m. at the new offices of the Indiana Judicial Center at 30 South Meridian Street in Indianapolis.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director  
Juvenile and Family Services